

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADANA 00111 051250Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OC-06 CCO-00 OPR-02 A-01 SCS-06
CA-01 MCT-01 SY-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 /088 W
-----025860 051258Z /47

P R 050840Z MAY 78
FM AMCONSUL ADANA
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
INFO AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
SECSTATE WASHDC 1397

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E.O. 11652:NA

TAGS: PINS, PINT, PROP

SUBJECT: PUBLIC SECURITY SITUATION

REF: (A) ADANA 108 (B) DISCUSSIONS AT POL OFFICER'S
CONFERENCE

1. MAY 4 A LEFTIST STUDENT WHO HAD BEEN KNIFED IN AN INCIDENT
THE PREVIOUS EVENING DIED, AND A QUICKLY ORGANIZED FUNERAL MARCH
THE SAME DAY PRODUCED A DEMONSTRATION BY SOME 5000 PERSONS.
THE MARCH ROUTE AGAIN WENT BY THE CONSULATE AND SOME DEMONSTRATORS
CHANTED SLOGANS SUCH AS "MURDERER AMERICA". IN GENERAL THE TONE
OF THE SLOGGANS AND PLACARDS WAS SIMILAR TO THAT REPORTED IN PARA 3

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OF REFTEL A.

2. COMMENT: ON RETURNING TO POST AFTER A TWO WEEK ABSENCE, I
HAVE REGISTERED A CHANGED ATMOSPHERE. ON THE ONE HAND, RECURRENT
INCIDENTS HAVE BEGUN TO HAVE A DEADENING EFFECT ON THE
CONSCIOUSNESS OF PERSONS SUCH AS NEWSPAPER REPORTERS WHO HADN'T
EVEN REPORTED THE KNIFING IN THE MAY 4 MORNING EDITIONS OF THE
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LOCAL NEWSPAPERS. (TWO OTHER SERIOUS FIGHTS AND A BOMBING WHICH
TOOK PLACE ON MAY 3 ALSO WENT UNREPORTED IN MOST PAPERS). ON
THE OTHER HAND, CITIZENS FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE SEEM TO BE
ADJUSTING THEIR LIFE STYLES BECAUSE OF A PERCEIVED CHANGE IN
THE SECURITY SITUATION. FOR EXAMPLE, PERSONS WE KNOW RANGING
FROM COOKS TO DOCTORS NO LONGER TAKE WALKS AT NIGHT OR THEY
AVOID CERTAIN AREAS OF TOWN. YOUNG PEOPLE ARE SEEN EVERYWHERE

MOVING IN BANDS, AND THEY ARE PERCEIVED TO BE SPOILING FOR A FIGHT. THE ANTICIPATION OF TROUBLE ON THE MAY 1 WEEKEND" PRODUCED WIDESPREAD FEAR IN ADANA'S PROPERTIED CLASS; EXTRA SECURITY WAS ADDED TO BUILDINGS; CARS WERE EITHER LOCKED IN GARAGES OR HIDDEN; MANY PEOPLE LEFT TOWN. SOME AMERICANS RESIDING IN TOWN, HAVING RECEIVED WARNINGS FROM TURKISH FRIENDS, MOVED IN WITH FAMILIES ON BASE OVER THE WEEKEND.

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3. THUS, AS DISCUSSED REF B, THE "THRESHOLD" SEEMS MEASURABLY HIGHER; ANY MAJOR INCIDENTS IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS COULD PRODUCE STRONGER DEMANDS FOR MORE DECISIVE PUBLIC SECURITY MEASURES.

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